

**BOROUGH OF COLLEGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2017 Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: Stagliano, Braun, Keenan, Kernan, Mann, Tulio, Dubas and Mayor Stagliano.

Also present were Borough Manager, Geoffrey Thompson, Borough Engineer Dave Leh and Borough Solicitor Mark Hosterman and Police Chief Bucher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Ms. Tulio to approve the October 4, 2017 meeting minutes; second by Mr. Dubas.
Motion carries 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets, Roads, Lighting Committee: Mr. Mann reported that he established the projects for next year for road maintenance.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

MOTION by Mr. Mann to approve check numbers 2495 through 2542 plus all EFT's, transfers and journal entries; seconded by Mr. Braun. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

The beginning balance was \$123,094.75, disbursements were \$278,640.02, deposits were \$215,923.80; leaving an ending balance of \$60,378.53 in the general fund checking. The available balance is \$710,470.38.

MOTION by Ms. Tulio to approve the Treasurer's Report; second by Mr. Braun. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

CTMA/PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Keenan reported that the Glenwood Reserve public improvements are almost complete. The Stearly Phase II tract in Trappe is almost complete. Public Works is replacing their old Case Backhoe, which is about 15 years old. They are proceeding with a Quiet Title Action for Water Works Park.

Planning Commission: No Report.

CPVRPC: Ms. Kernan reported that they had a presentation by Ryan Belts, the new head of the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy. They are seeking a trail designation for the Perkiomen Trail. The lobbying group for AT&T and others are trying to push through their wireless facilities placement. CPVRPC is sending a letter to oppose HB1620.

Parks Committee: No Report.

Public Safety Committee: No Report.

Personnel Committee: No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Engineer: Mr. Leh reported on what Mr. Mann touched on which is the paving project for next year.

Solicitor: Mr. Hosterman reported that the Santangelo Subdivision Land Development Agreement and Financial Security Agreement are completed. Also the Declaration for Maintenance of BMP's on the property is complete. Plans are being circulated for signatures.

Manager/Zoning Officer: Mr. Thompson reported that the Borough Hall is designated a drop-off location for campaign signs after the election. The Borough has purchased holiday lights for the pedestrian level lighting which the fire company will be putting up. Also, we received examples of the Fire Services EIT Rebate Ordinance and a model ordinance from the Tax Collection Commission, which is county wide. He would like to give the examples to the Budget and Finance Committee to vet and then bring back to Borough Council for review.

Police: Chief Bucher gave the report. Report on file.

Fire: Report on file. Gary Sassaman gave the report. Steve Gehringer, Ursinus College thanked the Fire Company for their handling of the accident at the IDC building site.

Ambulance Report: Report on File.

Mayor: No Report.

MOTION by Ms. Kernan to approve the Committee and Administrative reports; seconded by Mr. Dubas. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

Public Discussion:

Mrs. Stagliano stated that she would like to get an issue out of the way; turned the discussion over to the Solicitor. Solicitor Hosterman recommends limits on this discussion and read a statement regarding an anonymous letter regarding the mayor's race; a time limit of one minute or less to speak for the mayor candidates and residents. Chief Bucher will be the time keeper. Borough Council will need to approve the limitations.

MOTION by Mr. Mann to approve limitations; seconded by Mr. Keenan. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

Mayor Stagliano read a statement addressing the letter that was distributed around the Borough.

Rich Wallace, Sixth Avenue – Was Mr. Wright-Riggins notified prior to this meeting that this would be on the agenda and that he would be given an opportunity to speak?

Bev Kilroy, College Park – She has known the mayor for 20 years and cannot imagine him sending that letter.

Chris Cohen, Carmen Drive – The mayor has been good to us for 12 years.

Tim Vuotto, Sixth Avenue and owns business in Collegeville – Known the mayor for 71 years; never heard a word from his mouth about anyone or anything; he is a good person.

John Goman, 260 Carmen Drive – The letter that came out was wrong; Al is a decent person.

Shannon Spencer, Sixth Avenue – She is a borough council candidate and was out canvassing and went to a wrong house; the man who answered the door and was very angry at democrats for writing that letter. That was not the democrats or anyone in our candidate circle or in our group. She was shocked at what the man said to her. The letter is really defamatory to Mr. Wright-Riggins.

Mr. Mann noted that Collegeville was not the only community that received a letter like this. He thinks Upper Providence or Upper Perkiomen communities received them.

Chief Bucher stated that he sent the letter down to the DA's office. There is no crime, it's free speech.

Mrs. Stagliano stated that social media went rampant with name calling towards her husband; it was quite inflammatory, damaging and distressing to her family.

Mr. Dubas commented on the letter. He has lived here 15 years, working in town for almost 20 years and feels it was disappointing the way it spread on social media. This gave the author of the letter exposure that they desired. He can understand how the democratic mayor candidate was offended by it.

Chief Bucher asked of the residents at the meeting, how many received the letter.

Paul MacDonald spoke with five people that he knows; three were democrats that received letter; he found three copies in front of his house. None of the letters were in the mailboxes. This election has been very nasty; accusations, postcards sent around about stealing signs. He doesn't go around saying democratic supporters did this, it could have been kids. You just don't know.

Norm Hunsberger, Park Avenue – he heard about the letter from his neighbors. Took his grandchildren to the park and on the way home he came across the letter lying there. He found other letters lying around the area days later.

Chris Louten, Fourth Avenue – This is the first he heard of the letter. Is he understanding that the current mayor received a lot of retaliation as the result of this letter?

Solicitor thanked everyone for speaking very orderly and keeping this nice and calm and to the subject.

Tim Vuotto – At Third Avenue and Main Street, the intersection is a disaster, no one stops. This is a very dangerous intersection. Is there anything that can be done? The traffic is very bad. Now there is a light up the street at the college and that is not in sync with the other lights. He doesn't understand why they didn't build a bridge over Main Street. Who approved the light by the college?

Resident – Can anything be done at the intersection of Third Avenue and Park Avenue? It is very bad there. Many people just blow right through the stop signs.

Chris Louten, Fourth Avenue – Paving projects were mentioned. Will there be a list?

ACTION ITEMS:

Consideration of Ordinance No. 584 Wireless Communication Facilities: Mr. Hosterman explained this Ordinance. At this time, there will be a Public Hearing. Ordinance No. 584 adopts a new ordinance for wireless facilities.

Ms. Kernan saw that fees were involved. Could this be revenue for the Borough?

Dean Miller, 335 E. Main Street – With the newer technology, some of these new systems can be a health hazard.

Shannon Spencer, Sixth Avenue – What kind of existing structures can they be placed on?

MOTION by Mr. Mann to adopt Ordinance No. 584, Wireless Communication Facilities; seconded by Ms. Kernan. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

Consideration of the Refuse and Recycling Bids – Mr. Thompson discussed these bids. We received six bids, of which Whitetail Disposal was the lowest bid for one year at \$184,850.00 and a three year bid at \$584,550.00; the second lowest bidder was Advanced Disposal with a one year bid of \$193,950.00 and three year bid at \$592,975.00. He checked references and they came back clean. Mr. Thompson recommends approving Whitetail Disposal for a three year contract at \$584,550.00. They would begin trash collection January 2018. Mr. Hosterman noted that the specs required a resume of the team; Whitetail only supplied a list of who would be on the team. He suggests the motion include waiving the non-conforming issue since they didn't include individual resumes.

MOTION by Mr. Keenan to award Whitetail Disposal the Refuse and Recycling 3 year contract for \$584,550.00, waiving any non-conforming issue that exists; seconded by Mr. Braun. ***Motion carries 7-0.***

Consideration of the 2018 Preliminary Budget – Mr. Thompson discussed this. New to the budget for 2018 is a fire services tax of 1.0 mil. The General Purpose millage will be 3.9 mils and the overall millage will be 4.9 with an increase of .5 mil. There are two police cars in this budget.

This budget has to be advertised for 30 days before voting on it; also the Real Estate Tax Ordinance must be advertised.

MOTION by Mr. Dubas to approve the consideration of the 2018 Preliminary Budget; seconded by Mr. Braun. *Motion carries 7-0.*

Consideration of Advertising Ordinance No. 585, 2018 Real Estate Millage – Mr. Thompson discussed this. This is a total of 4.9 mils. 3.9 mils for general purpose expenditures and 1.0 mil for fire services.

MOTION by Mr. Braun to advertise Ordinance No. 585, 2018 Real Estate Millage; seconded by Ms. Tulio. *Motion carries 7-0.*

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Thompson stated that the leaf collection is moved back to December 16th since the leaves have been slow to come down.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF COUNCIL:

Ms. Kernan noted that Ursinus is putting on a performance of Hair this coming weekend.

Jim Traupman, Ninth Avenue – Are the Refuse/Recycling bids fixed regardless of fuel costs?

Chief Bucher – Our annual Santa Run will be Saturday, December 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey D. Thompson, Manager/Secretary